Restructuring FCI

1627. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will in the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plan has been formulated to restructure the Food Corporation of India with a view to improving its functioning to control inefficiencies that increase the food subsidy burden; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) and (b) The Government has approved the appointment of M/s McKinsey & Co. by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to conduct a study with the objective of bringing about major improvement in the functioning of the FCI to control inefficiencies that increase the food subsidy burden.

The study will be conducted in two phases of three months each at a total cost of Rs. 4.80 crore.

DPS in FCI

1628. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will in the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of non-implementation of the direction of the Supreme Court on Direct Payment System (DPS) in Food Corporation of India in Punjab, as represented by trade unions;

(b) whether 841 workers stand retrenched in 14 depots where DPS was introduced additionally subsequent to the Supreme Court order; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to regularize the retrenched workers and implement DPS in all Depots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) Sir, the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Direct Payment System (DPS) in the Food Corporation of India in Punjab have been implemented in letter and spirit.

(b) The said workers were brought from the open market and engaged by the Handling and Transport Contractors according to their choice and suitability for work in the FCI depots. They were being employed and paid by the contractors for the work done. Hence, there was no question of retrenching any of these workers of contractors by the FCI.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

Number of passengers in AC

1629. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the complete details of carrying capacity and number of passengers travelled in First AC, 2AC and 3AC in trains originating/ terminating from/at Ahmedabad, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai and Guwahati during first six months of 2004, train-wise and sector-wise;

(b) what are the details of percentage utilization, class-wise on these trains, train-wise and sector-wise; and

(c) what are the earning to Railways from the above trains during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The desired information is not maintained.

Procurement of rice and wheat

1630. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target set for procurement of rice and wheat in the year 2004, State-wise;

(b) how it is going to be procured or achieved; and

(c) if the target is not achieved the reasons therefor?